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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5140
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 5680
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 8014
RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 3137
RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 6198
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 9489
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 0254
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 2971
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 6902
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 6544
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SIPDIS

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SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - IRAN

¶1. LEAD STORIES: Most Tuesday morning papers gave top play to the first trial in Japan involving lay judges that started on Monday.

¶2. "Difficult Voyage for New Iranian Administration" The liberal Asahi wrote from Tehran (8/4): "Reelected President Ahmadinejad kicked off his second term following a ceremony on Monday to endorse his presidency. Despite the rumored discord between Supreme Leader Khamenei and Ahmadinejad, the two demonstrated their unity and the president called for reconciliation among the Iranian people. However, he failed to display the 'unity' of the leaders, as some influential Iranians were absent from the ceremony."

¶3. "Iranian President Starts Isolated Second Term" The moderate Yomiuri stated in a correspondent's report from Tehran (8/4): "Conservative hardliner President Ahmadinejad was approved by Supreme Leader Khamenei on Monday to serve his second term. Criticism of Ahmadinejad over his selection of a vice president is growing within the conservative group led by Khamenei. Protests by the reformist group, which claims that the recent presidential election was 'invalid,' also continue sporadically. Ahmadinejad, whose isolation is deepening, will likely have a difficult second term."

ZUMWALT